## Message Text

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**EXDIS** 

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: PARM SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR EARLE'S PLENARY STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 6, 1977 (SALT TWO-1529)

## BEGIN TEXT.

- STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR EARLE
- DECEMBER 6, 1977

## MR. MINISTER:

TODAY I WANT TO ADDRESS ONE ASPECT OF THE DEFINITION OF HEAVY BOMBERS WHICH IS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE II OF THE JOINT DRAFT TEXT OF THE TREATY. IN PARTICULAR, I WANT TO TABLE A PROPOSAL IN CONNECTION WITH THE CRITERIA TO BE USED TO MAKE CASE-BY-CASE DETERMINATIONS OF WHICH TYPES OF AIRCRAFT IN THE FUTURE HAVE CAPABILITIES SIMILAR OR SUPERIOR TO THOSE OF CURRENT HEAVY BOMBERS.

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I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WAS RECENTLY MADE IN THE DRAFTING GROUP WITH RESPECT TO THIS QUESTION. ACCORDINGLY, I BELIEVE IT UNNECESSARY NOW TO ELABORATE ON THE UNITED STATES PROPOSAL, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT IT USES THE WORD "CAPABILITIES," WHICH IN OUR VIEW MORE ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE INTENT OF BOTH

SIDES THAN DOES THE WORD "CHARACTERISTICS." I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE WHICH THE DRAFTING GROUP SHOULD BE ABLE TO RESOLVE SATISFACTORILY.

THEREFORE, MR. MINISTER, I WANT TO PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING AGREED STATEMENT TO PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE II OF THE TREATY:

- THE PARTIES AGREE THAT THE CRITERIA THEY SHALL
- USE TO MAKE CASE-BY-CASE DETERMINATIONS OF WHICH
- TYPES OF AIRCRAFT IN THE FUTURE HAVE CAPABILITIES
- SIMILAR OR SUPERIOR TO THOSE OF CURRENT HEAVY
- BOMBERS SHALL BE AGREED UPON IN THE STANDING CONSUL-
- TATIVE COMMISSION.
- END TEXT.

BEGIN TEXT.

MR. MINISTER:

THE DRAFTING GROUP HAS ACHIEVED THE RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES WHICH FORMERLY EXISTED BETWEEN THE SIDES ON THE QUESTION OF REFERENCE TO MOBILE ICBM LAUNCHERS IN SECRET

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THOSE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY AND ASSOCIATED AGREED STATEMENTS WHICH YOU HAVE CITED.

THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WELCOMES THIS EVIDENCE OF PROGRESS AND CONFIRMS THAT THE CITED PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY AND ASSOCIATED AGREED STATEMENTS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE AGREED AD REFERENDUM. EARLE

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